

Serial No.: 10/021,190
Attorney Docket No.: 10017879-1

REMARKS

The Final Office Action dated April 10, 2006 contained a final rejection of claims 1, 4-27 and 29-49. The Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 10, 18, 24, 31 and 39. Claims 1, 4-27 and 29-49 are in the case. Please consider the present amendment with the attached Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. This amendment is in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

The Office Action objected to the independent claims due to a minor informality. Namely, regarding the phrase "depressing the selector," the Examiner indicated that he was unsure which particular selector was being referenced.

In response, the Applicant has amended each independent claim to respectively clarify the phrase to overcome this objection.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 4-27 and 29-49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kovacs et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0003191A1) in view of Polgar et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0025735).

The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection based on the amendments to the claims and the arguments below.

Specifically, the Applicant's independent claims now include an encryption key generated by an initial user of the ad hoc network, wherein encrypted content and the encryption key for decrypting the encrypted content is transmitted to at least one other user within wireless communications range of the initial user, wherein the content is encrypted in accordance with a security level determined by the initial user.

In contrast, the combined references do not disclose, teach or suggest all of the Applicants' features. In particular, although Kovacs et al. disclose using an ad hoc

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network (see Abstract and Figs. 2 and 4 of Kovacs et al.) and Polgar et al. disclose a user interface with a touch screen (see Abstract and paragraphs 0011, 0020 and 0024 of Polga et al.), the combined references still fail to disclose the Applicant's **newly** amended features an encryption key generated by an initial user of the ad hoc network, wherein encrypted content and the encryption key for decrypting the encrypted content is transmitted to at least one other user **within wireless communications range** of the initial user, wherein the content is encrypted in accordance with a security level determined by the initial user.

Instead, the combined references simply disclose a "virtual device manager sub-unit 60" that "provides mobile multimedia application users with contacts, awareness features, insofar as users can be offered a plurality of available tools, utilities and services, which are customised based on the user's location, the user's preferences and/or the user's authorisation/credentials." Clearly, this system in Kovacs et al. is missing the Applicant's claimed encryption key generated by an initial user that is transmitted to other users within wireless communications range of the initial user and wherein the content is encrypted in accordance with a security level determined by the initial user. As such, the "virtual device manager" in Kovacs et al. is "translated" in a graphical user interface based interactive environment (see paragraphs 0017, 0056 and 0106 of Kovacs et al.), but does **not** generate an encryption key with a security level determined by the user and transmit the key to other users within wireless range of the user of the ad hoc network like the Applicant's claimed invention.

This **failure** of the cited references, either alone or in combination, to disclose, suggest or provide motivation for the Applicant's claimed invention indicates a lack of a prima facie case of obviousness. Accordingly, the combined cited references cannot render the Applicant's invention obvious. W.L. Gore & Assocs. V. Garlock, Inc., 721 F.2d 1540, 220 USPQ 303 (Fed. Cir. 1983). (MPEP 2143). (MPEP 2143).

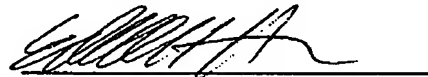
With regard to the rejection of the dependent claims, because they depend from the above-argued respective independent claims, and they contain additional limitations that are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, these claims are also considered to be patentable (MPEP § 2143.03).

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In view of the arguments and amendments set forth above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejected claims are in immediate condition for allowance. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding claim rejections and to pass this application to issue. Additionally, in an effort to expedite and further the prosecution of the subject application, the Applicant kindly invites the Examiner to telephone the Applicants' attorney at (818) 885-1575. Please note that all correspondence should continue to be directed to:

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